

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

Released: September 12, 2005  
Week ending: September 11, 2005  
Volume: 24-05

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**Weather:** Most temperatures throughout Oregon were cooler than normal for this time of year. Most of eastern and central Oregon had lows in the 20's and 30's with highs in the 80's. Lows in the Willamette Valley were mostly in the 40's with highs in the 60's. All stations on the coast recorded below normal temperatures with a high of 72 degrees in Florence. Precipitation levels ranged from no precipitation in some central and eastern stations to 1.37 inches at Detroit Lake. For the most part, conditions remain dry.

**Field Crops:** Producers across Oregon continued fertilizing and preparing fields for next year. Haying continues in some areas. Many farmers and ranchers were busy moving hay in from the fields. Despite some rain this week in parts of western Oregon, soil moisture supplies remain very low across the State. In Polk County, grass seed fields were being prepared for planting. Some early seeded fields have already germinated.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Pastures and rangeland remained very dry across the State. Many dryland pastures were basically dormant producing very little forage. Irrigation of pastures continued on land with facilities available. Livestock water remained very low in some areas with some wells reported to be out of water. Cattle were moved into wheat stubble in some areas. Although conditions remained very dry most livestock were reported in good condition.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nurseries were busy irrigating, and with plant upkeep activities preparing for fall plant sales. Greenhouses were getting fall vegetable starts and decorative plants ready. Many growers and associations were having Fall Hardy plant sales. Christmas tree growers were finishing up shaping of trees.

**Vegetables:** Vegetable harvest was in full swing across western Oregon. Sweet corn harvest was progressing and most of the crop was headed to the processors. Farmer's markets and roadside stands were well stocked. Preparation for potato harvest continues in Klamath County. Early potato harvest is nearly complete in eastern parts of the State. Harvest of later varieties was just getting started.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Blueberries and blackberries continue to produce throughout the Willamette Valley. Apple harvest continued on a light crop. Filberts and walnuts are also expected to be light this year. Mature nut drop is progressing for hazelnut varieties. Southern Willamette Valley peach harvest is nearing completion. There were pears available here and there in the Willamette Valley. Summer pear harvest was complete in Parkdale. Winter pear harvest began in lower Hood River Valley orchards. Nectarines, peaches, pears and apples continued to be picked in northern Wasco County. Grapes were looking good and getting closer to being harvested; growers are testing sugar levels. Southern Oregon apples, peaches and plums were harvested. Most all Bartlett pears were picked. Some wild blackberries were picked.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 09/11/05**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	25	54	21	0
Subsoil	22	53	25	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 09/11/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat planted	4	2	2	1
Barley harvested	98	95	93	92
Spring wheat harvested	99	97	95	98
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.8	7.0	6.5	6.6

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 09/11/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range and pasture	7	19	48	25	1

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Sugarbeet seed harvest is winding up, fall field preparation ongoing. Vole population is high – prepare for vole damage this fall. Some new plantings emerging. Some apples are available, although the crop is very light. The nice peach harvest is nearing end. There are a few pears here and there. Hazelnut size still looks very good. Some blackberries, strawberries and blueberries still being harvested. Vegetable harvest is in full production; continue to see various vegetable diseases showing up. Greenhouse and nursery crops are slowing down.

**COOS/CURRY:** At the weekend, a slight shower at Brookings-Harbor and significant showers at Bandon. First significant rainfall at Bandon in 85 days. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 1 day, at Brookings-Harbor: 85 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 56.2 at Brookings-Harbor to 56.9 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 67.3 at Bandon to 73.3 deg F at Brookings-Harbor and lows ranged from 47.6 at Bandon to 47.9 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 0.06" at Brookings-Harbor to 0.41" at Bandon. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 54 GDD at Bandon to 57 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

**DOUGLAS:** Got some rain on Saturday, should not have caught too much hay down.

**JACKSON:** The valley received .24" of rain on Saturday; the mountains received a bit more. Some of the higher elevations received a trace of snow as well. Cool weather has made it easier to keep up on the irrigating of crops. Overall, crops look healthy. Still doing some haying, second cutting on grass and third cutting on alfalfa. Grain harvest continued with just a few fields to go. Lots of ground preparation for fall planting. Apples, peaches and plums still being picked. Most all Bartlett pears are finished being picked. Some wild blackberries being picked, but the hot weather has made them small unless they got good water. Still lots of good vegetables at farmers markets and roadside stands. Mostly summer squash, tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet corn, some onions and potatoes. Greenhouses are now busy with getting fall vegetable starts and fall decorative plants ready. Nurseries are doing lots of irrigating and plant upkeep. Getting ready for fall plant sales. All livestock on good irrigated pastures are doing good to excellent. Dry ground pasture is really dry and dead, but there is still some livestock being pastured on it. This week was somewhat cooler with days in the high 80's and low 90's. Nights are a bit cooler, also - mostly in 40's but with little or no dew. Humidity has been too low. Friday night we finally got a front that came in and we had some rain. Most areas had at least 1/4" of rain with some areas getting almost 3/4". Early in the week was, weather-wise, very good

for any harvesting or other outside work. The rain was a welcome change but not too good for the haying.

**JOSEPHINE:** A beautiful week - fall is in the air with cooler daytime temperatures. Fog one day, and a few drops of rain. People are doing fall planting if they have water. Clean up is happening in the truck gardens. Vineyards should be picking grapes now. Second cutting of hay continues and looks like the yield is down considerably. Lots of activity cleaning up yards, fields, preparing for winter. Just waiting for pumpkins and winter squash now.

**MARION:** Crop harvests are mostly finished. Fields are being worked for fall plantings. First significant rains fell on Saturday helping soil moisture, but most crops and areas need considerably more. Sweet corn harvest is progressing well. There were six suitable days for fieldwork.

**POLK:** Unseasonably cool temperatures have prevailed the last week, coupled with thunderstorms on September 10th. Cooler, wet weather at the end of the week slowed clover and hay harvest. Rainfall reached three-quarters of an inch in some areas. Fall plantings of grass seed have already germinated. Many other fields are still being prepared. There is a fast growing trend to leave fields fallow over the winter due to increased input costs exceeding the financial benefits of a winter crops such as wheat. Fall calving taking place at this time and non-irrigated pastures are dry.

**WASHINGTON:** Fourth cutting alfalfa is ready to cut. Clipping grass seed fields. Field corn earing well. Red clover being windrowed in some areas. Irrigating new clover seeding and ripping wheat stubble. Pears are being picked. Some apples being harvested, but the crop looks light. Blueberries and blackberries continue to produce. Filberts and walnuts may be lighter crop than normal. Sweet corn is going to processor. Green beans finishing. Tomatoes showing well at markets. Nurseries are irrigating new sets and preparing for fall plants. Wholesale and retail growers had good Fall hardy plant sales. The Hillsboro Air Show kept buyers away as traffic was heavy. Pastures are mostly gone except for irrigated fields. Livestock are still in good shape. High temperature 86, low 47. Humidity 54 - 83 percent. Half an inch of rain fell on Saturday the 10th.

**YAMHILL:** Some red clover still needs to be combined. Field preparation is in full swing. Some rain on Friday and Saturday. Mature nut drop is progressing for hazelnut varieties. Apple harvest continues.

## EASTERN OREGON

**GILLIAM:** We are in the process of gathering grazing information which we are hearing is worse than we thought.

**HOOD RIVER:** Summer pear harvest was completed in Parkdale. Winter pear harvest began in lower-Hood River Valley orchards.

**KLAMATH:** Fall temperatures continue bringing cooler day and night time temperatures with light frost in colder areas. Harvest continues for grain, mint and hay. Preparation for potato harvest continues; 20% are dying down on their own, 60% have been knocked down. Some movement of yearling cattle & feedlots continues.

**LAKE:** Temperatures continue to be cool in the mornings and evenings. There was some precipitation over the weekend.

**MORROW:** There has been no rain this fall, so there is no green up started at this point.

**SHERMAN:** Limited field work at this time. Some weeding in fallow, some harrowing in stubble for Russian thistles, but mainly quiet as it's too dry to grow anything. There has been no measurable precipitation for seven weeks and only 69% of normal precipitation for the whole crop year. Things are looking very dry. There is more soil moisture up high in the profile in conventional mulch than there is in chem fallow. Chem fallow will require delayed planting until soil moisture is available. Fertilizer shot up a dime to \$0.50 per pound, so those who fertilized in spring are feeling much better. Gas price dipped under \$3 per gallon....ouch to both accounts as

this will impact the bottom line seriously. Other than that, grain prices continue to drop. FSA committee today signed disaster aid contracts for stockmen. Water is desperately short for stock and wildlife. On the bright side, this has been a beautiful day with slight breezes, warm temperatures and cloudless skies.... Great for Chamber of Commerce activities, disappointing for farmers and ranchers.

**UMATILLA:** Dry, Dry, Dry.

**UNION:** Few rain showers on Saturday. Conditions remain extremely dry. Some domestic wells running out of water.

**WALLOWA:** Not much change from last week. Moisture is needed.

**WASCO:** Characteristically, the weather this week was "cool - summer weather". Very nice for working in the fields doing fertilizing, weeding, and start of seeding operations. Rain is needed too improve seeding conditions. Nectarines, peaches, pears and apples continued to be picked in the northern end of the county. Grapes are looking good and getting closer to being harvested. Growers are currently testing the grapes for sugar levels. Alfalfa hay operations are winding down for this year's season. The cattle were still doing fairly well on dry pastures, a few are being moved onto wheat stubble. Stockman are currently purchasing and filling their barns with alfalfa hay for the winter months.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: September 11, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)**

Station	Air temperature <sup>1</sup>				Growing <sup>2</sup> Degree days		Last week precip. <sup>3</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>4</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	44	72	57	-4	52	-15	0.34	-0.24	3	0.38	-0.48	44	6
Bandon <sup>5</sup>	48	66	57	-2	55	-1	0.43	0.08	3	0.43	-0.10	81	3
Crescent City	47	63	55	-4	38	-25	0.04	-0.31	1	0.06	-0.45	12	2
Florence	42	72	57	-5	51	-24	0.54	0.06	3	0.54	-0.18	75	3
Tillamook	41	68	54	-5	31	-28	1.02	0.27	2	1.04	-0.08	93	3
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>5</sup>	47	86	63	-1	91	-3	0.02	-0.35	1	0.02	-0.55	4	1
Corvallis	45	86	62	-3	82	-12	0.12	-0.19	3	0.12	-0.35	26	3
Detroit Lake <sup>5</sup>	44	90	61	+4	80	+21	1.37	0.90	2	1.37	0.66	193	2
Eugene	45	86	62	-3	88	-14	0.10	-0.25	2	0.10	-0.45	18	2
Hillsboro	41	84	61	-2	77	-11	-	-0.34	-	-	-0.50	-	-
McMinnville	44	88	62	-2	87	-8	0.21	-0.13	2	0.21	-0.29	42	2
Portland	50	84	65	+0	110	+2	0.01	-0.40	1	0.01	-0.60	2	1
Salem	46	87	63	-1	90	-5	0.84	0.52	3	0.84	0.36	175	3
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	46	86	65	-3	105	-14	0.20	0.03	1	0.20	-0.05	80	1
Medford	47	88	65	-4	106	-19	0.29	0.08	2	0.29	0.00	100	2
Roseburg	49	86	65	-1	104	-5	0.21	-0.05	1	0.21	-0.17	55	1
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	37	87	58	-2	58	-12	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.33	-	-
Echo <sup>5</sup>	42	89	62	-4	87	-24	0.01	-0.13	1	0.01	-0.21	5	1
Heppner	42	87	61	-2	82	-11	-	-0.17	-	-	-0.25	-	-
Hermiston	41	89	63	-4	90	-21	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
John Day	35	91	61	+0	83	+1	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.33	-	-
Madras <sup>5</sup>	35	88	58	-4	57	-22	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
Moro	39	87	60	-2	71	-12	0.05	-0.09	1	0.05	-0.17	23	1
Parkdale <sup>5</sup>	37	88	58	-5	59	-28	0.02	-0.24	1	0.02	-0.36	5	1
Pendleton	43	87	62	-4	87	-25	0.09	-0.05	1	0.09	-0.12	43	1
The Dalles	46	91	65	+4	107	+22	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>5</sup>	29	83	55	-2	44	-9	0.03	-0.11	1	0.03	-0.19	14	1
Bend	33	84	56	-3	47	-10	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
Burns	23	90	57	-2	63	+6	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
Christmas Valley <sup>5</sup>	30	88	53	-9	33	-48	0.13	0.00	2	0.13	-0.08	62	2
Klamath Falls	32	79	55	-7	40	-41	-	-0.13	-	-	-0.21	-	-
Klamath Falls <sup>5</sup>	30	81	55	-7	45	-36	-	-0.13	-	-	-0.21	-	-
Lakeview	23	84	57	-4	61	-9	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
Lorella <sup>5</sup>	31	86	54	-8	36	-45	0.02	-0.11	2	0.02	-0.19	10	2
Redmond	32	88	57	-3	50	-17	0.40	0.26	2	0.40	0.18	182	2
Worden <sup>5</sup>	31	81	55	-7	40	-41	-	-0.13	-	-	-0.21	-	-
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	27	88	56	-4	47	-23	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.33	-	-
Joseph	34	87	58	+4	59	+14	0.11	-0.17	2	0.11	-0.33	25	2
La Grande	28	90	59	-4	68	-21	-	-0.21	-	-	-0.36	-	-
Prairie City <sup>5</sup>	29	87	55	+3	47	+9	0.01	-0.27	1	0.01	-0.43	2	1
Union	30	89	59	-2	69	-3	0.03	-0.25	2	0.03	-0.41	7	2
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	34	91	66	-1	111	-1	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-
Rome	32	91	61	-3	78	-11	-	-0.14	-	-	-0.22	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>2</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>3</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. <sup>4</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2005. <sup>5</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).  
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.  
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